

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A digital content downloading method using a network in which digital content is downloaded, comprising the steps of:

~~making receiving through a network a consumer send both~~ information designating a desired digital content selected by ~~the~~ a consumer and a desired digital content transmission condition related to quality of communication selected by the consumer, ~~to~~ at a digital content retailer possessing the desired digital content ~~through a network~~;

~~making requesting, with~~ the digital content retailer, ~~reserve a reservation for~~ the network managed by a network operator according to the desired digital content transmission condition sent from the consumer;

~~making providing from~~ the digital content retailer ~~download~~ the desired digital content designated by the information, to the consumer through the network reserved by the digital content retailer at the desired digital content transmission condition sent from the consumer;

~~making collecting from the consumer, with~~ the digital content retailer, ~~collect~~ a charge for the desired digital content, ~~in which~~ ~~the charge including~~ a transmission charge corresponding to the desired digital content transmission condition ~~is included, from the~~ consumer; and

~~making paying, with~~ the digital content retailer, ~~pay~~ the transmission charge to the network operator.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): A digital content downloading method using a network, according to claim 1, wherein the desired digital content transmission condition selected by the consumer ~~is includes~~ a transmission time condition ~~such as an urgent transmission condition, a date and time specifying transmission condition or a date specifying transmission condition.~~

Claim 3 (Previously Presented): A digital content downloading method using a network, according to claim 1, wherein the network is composed of a plurality of networks managed by a plurality of network operators, and the desired digital content transmission condition selected by the consumer corresponds to a communication quality of each of the networks.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): A digital content downloading method using a network, according to claim 3, wherein the communication quality of each network is determined by at least one of a data transfer rate, a delay time, a delay variation, a burst size, a cell interval and a cell discard rate.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): A digital content downloading method using a network, according to claim 3, wherein a bandwidth of the network is reserved with a time condition in the network reservation according to the desired digital content transmission condition.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): A digital content downloading method using a network, according to claim 1, wherein the desired digital content transmission condition selected by the consumer is a bandwidth guarantee type transmission condition, in which a

transmission time period is guaranteed, or a bandwidth no-guarantee type transmission conditions, in which a transmission time period is not guaranteed, and the transmission charge is heightened as the transmission time period is shortened.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): A digital content downloading method using a network, according to claim 1, wherein the step of ~~making the digital content retailer download providing~~ the desired digital content includes:

~~making checking, with~~ the digital content retailer, check through the network whether or not the consumer has a capability such as a memory capacity for ~~is capable of~~ receiving the desired digital content, before the desired digital content is ~~downloaded provided~~ to the consumer at the desired digital content transmission condition.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): A digital content downloading method using a network, according to claim 1, wherein the step of ~~making the digital content retailer download providing~~ the desired digital content includes:

connecting the consumer to the network through a subscriber line which is composed of a telephone line, an optical fiber cable, a coaxial cable or a radio transmission line.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): A digital content downloading method using a network, according to claim 1, ~~wherein the step of making the digital content retailer download the desired digital content includes further comprising:~~

~~making sending, from~~ the digital content retailer, send a transmission start notice to the consumer before ~~the downloading of~~ providing the desired digital content;

~~making the network operator manage managing, with a network operator, a transmission time period in the transmission of the desired digital content until the digital content retailer sends a transmission completion notice to the network operator;~~

~~making sending, from the network operator, send a time-out notice to the digital content retailer in cases where the transmission time period exceeds a prescribed value; and~~

~~making forcedly terminating, with the digital content retailer, forcedly terminate the downloading providing of the desired digital content in cases where the digital content retailer receives the time-out notice from the network operator.~~

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): A digital content downloading method using a network, according to claim 1, wherein the step of ~~making the digital content retailer download providing~~ the desired digital content includes:

~~making ciphering, with the digital content retailer, cipher the desired digital content; and~~

~~making providing from the digital content retailer, download ciphered data of the desired digital content content; and~~

~~making the consumer decipher the ciphered data of the desired digital content to obtain the desired digital content.~~

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): A digital content downloading method using a network, according to claim 1, wherein the step of ~~making the consumer send both receiving~~ the information and the desired digital content transmission condition includes:

~~making receiving from the consumer send personal information and payment information of the consumer, at to the digital content retailer;~~

~~making the digital content retailer inquire of an inquiry to a credit company whether or not the personal information and the payment information sent received from the consumer is correct;~~

~~making requesting that the credit company perform the authentication of the consumer according to the personal information and the payment information; and~~

~~making requesting the credit company to send an authentication notice to the digital content retailer in cases where the personal information and the payment information is correct.~~

Claim 12. (Currently Amended) A digital content downloading method using a network, according to claim 1, wherein the step of ~~making the digital content retailer collect collecting a charge for the desired digital content includes:~~

~~making sending, from the digital content retailer, send an accounting notice corresponding to the charge for the desired digital content to a credit company;~~

~~making requesting that the credit company send a bill, which corresponds to the charge for the desired digital content, to the consumer in response to the accounting notice;~~

~~making requesting that the consumer pay the charge for the desired digital content to the credit company in response to the bill; and~~

~~making requesting that the credit company pay the charge paid by the consumer, to the digital content retailer.~~

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): A digital content downloading method using a network, according to claim 1, wherein the step of ~~making the digital content retailer download providing the desired digital content includes:~~

~~making the consumer send receiving, at the digital content retailer, a reception impossible notice to the digital content retailer from the consumer in cases where indicating that the consumer fails in receiving has not received the desired digital content;~~

~~making the digital content retailer send sending a transmission termination notice to the network operator from the digital content retailer; and~~

~~making the digital content retailer send sending a transmission no-completion notice to the consumer from the digital content retailer.~~

Claim 14 (Previously Presented): A digital content downloading method using a network, according to claim 1, wherein the desired digital content is a music file, a video file or a game software title.

Claims 15 -28 (Canceled).